

On One Wheel

ISSUE 34-4 * OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC. * DECEMBER 3, 2012



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On the cover: The final stretch of the Marathon at UNICON 16 in Brixen, Italy. L-R: Corbin Dunn (3rd), Christoph Hartmann (2nd), Scott Wilton (1st), Martin Charrier (4th).

Photo By: Diego Farina

Mission Statement of the Unicycling Society of America, Inc.

To foster social and athletic interest in and promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling among youth and adults of the country by establishing voluntary standards of performance and sponsoring and overseeing local and national meets. To disseminate knowledge and information on all phases of the sport to all interested parties throughout the country via a newsletter information service.

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On One Wheel

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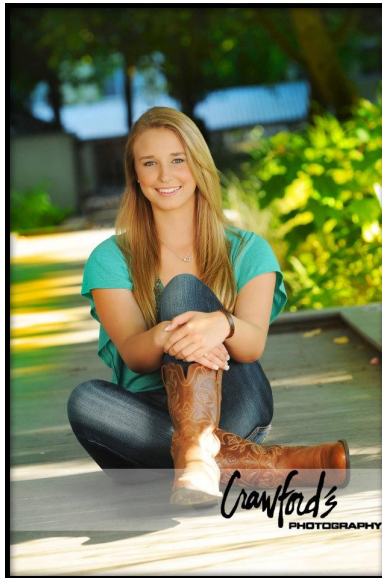
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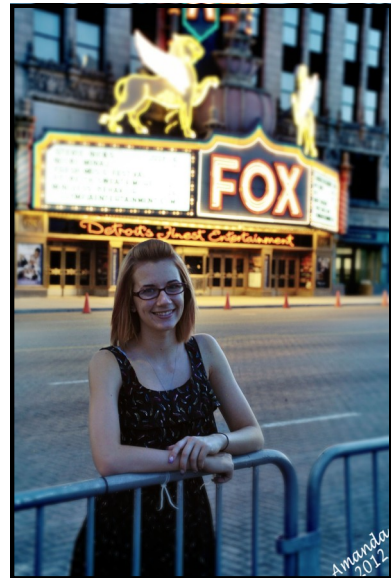
2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



**Aaron
Schmitz**



**Chantelle
Troutman-Watson**



**Amanda
Grzych**

Words from one of the scholarship winners, Chantelle



Hi, my name is Chantelle. I am the team captain and a student coach for the former Panther Pride Unicycle Team that is based out of North Bend, Washington. I started unicycling at the age of 5 and the following year, I began attending competitions. I wasn't much of a performer at the start. I was the quiet girl that was too scared to ask my coach for help on new skills. If you have seen my routines in the past couple of years, well, I am sure you wouldn't say I'm shy any longer. It took a while for me to warm up to the idea of performing. With the help of the experienced riders on the team; and most importantly, Mr. Alan Tepper, I finally understood what unicycling is all about. They took time out of their days to help me create better routines. They explained to me why presentation in a routine is important and they pushed me to fight against falls. They allowed me to see that the unicycle community is, in its nature, encouraging and kind hearted. Essentially, they were leaders that I could follow and learn from along the way. As I got older, I found myself filling their places for the younger riders. Before I knew it, I was the person teaching kids that this sport is about determination and teamwork. I became someone for the riders to come to with questions and to look to for words of encouragement. As a result of this process, I gained confidence in my abilities, and learned how to communicate with parents and riders in order to ensure that each rider is reaching his or her full potential. I developed leadership skills that I value immensely.

I plan to take the lessons I have learned from being involved with the unicycling community through college with me, and use them to my advantage. For those of you who are wondering, I am attending the University of Washington, Bothell. I chose to attend a satellite campus of the University because it provides smaller class sizes, and a more immediate assistance with questions. I plan on studying pre law, and eventually going to law school to become a lawyer.

Jamey & Gigi's Magical Hawaiian Wedding

Jamey Mossengren



I've been unicycling for over 24 years, growing up in Minnesota I started with TCUC (Twin Cities Unicycle Club) and unicycling has been my passion ever since. A few years ago I decided to quit my full time Mechanical Engineering job and move to California. This is where I decided to make my career as a professional street performer and it is also where I met the love of my life, Gigi Edgley.

It just so happens that I had broken my foot riding down some stairs (on my unicycle of course). My friends were going to see a live band at this small venue and somehow convinced me to go with them, even though I was in no mood as I was on crutches and didn't think it'd be that fun for me. As I stood there watching this band, a very cute Australian girl comes up and asks me if I wanted a stool to sit on. I said yes and we started talking. She asked how I broke my foot and I said unicycling. She was like, ya right, I don't believe that. And so I had to convince her it was true by showing her one of my business cards which stated I was a professional unicyclist. She then told me that she grew up around circuses as her dad was a huge promoter in Australia and she knew how to fire twirl and trapeze. So we hit it off instantly and started dating. 5 years later and we just got married in Maui.

It was a beautiful wedding and the performer in me wanted to make it something special. So I dressed in a white suit with a top hat and came down the isle on my unicycle! Four of my groomsmen knew how to ride so they also came down on unicycles. Unicycle.com helped us out in creating five unicycles that had white tires, pedals and seat bumpers so they would match and they were perfect. I've taught Gigi how to unicycle but couldn't convince her to come down on a unicycle with her dress on. But we did manage to get a few pictures later of us both on unicycles.

Another nice touch was that Constance Cotter, who was one of our guests, let us use her precious moments figurine of a boy and girl on a unicycle to set on top of the cake! It turns out that 20 of our 80 guests know how to unicycle. One of our coolest wedding gifts were fire poi and six juggling torches! We even got to try them out as soon as the sun set, with Gigi fire twirling and me juggling torches. I'll sum it up by saying it was very magical and the best day of my life. We both plan to be in Pennsylvania for NAUCC next year so hope to see you there!



Q&A with Scott Wilton

Here are some of Scott's accomplishments as a unicyclist...

2-time World Champion 10k Race - UNICON XV & XVI (World Record time of 19:16.7)

World Champion Marathon - UNICON XVI

2nd place overall 100k Race - UNICON XVI

2nd place overall Muni XC Race - UNICON XVI

2-time National Champion Overall Long Distance - NAUCC 2011 & 2010

2-time National Champion Overall Track Racing - NAUCC 2011 & 2010

National Champion Overall Muni - NAUCC 2011

1st Place Grischa Muni Challenge - a 3 day team muni competition in August 2012 in Switzerland with teammates Mark Lavis (Australia) and Tony Melton (New Zealand)

Q: How long have you been Unicycling and how did you get involved in the sport?

A: I began unicycling around age ten when my mom got my sister and I a unicycle for Christmas. She had an old friend who rode a big wheel around town and always thought it was cool. The unicycle promptly sat in a corner for about a year. I finally learned to ride when I brought it with me to a juggling festival with in friend in Madison. After that, I would ride it to school and eventually got a 26" to ride more quickly. The summer after getting the 26", I attended my first NAUCC in 2007 in Saline, MI. I had read about Nationals online and convinced my mom to drive me. I did well at that NAUCC, winning several age group races. After that, my unicycling world exploded and in 2008 I raced in Ride the Lobster (a 5 day 500 mile unicycle race across Nova Scotia, Canada), NAUCC in the Black Hills, and my first Unicon in Denmark.



Mark Lavis from Australia riding up Tomülpass in the Swiss Alps on our Muni tour.

Q: What is your favorite style of riding and why?

A: While I really enjoy Distance Racing and Freestyle, my favorite style has to be Muni. I love the constant challenge that riding off road give. Even if you always ride the same trail, you can always find new lines to take and ways to ride it. Also, the scenery that riding in mountain terrain provides is awesome.

Q: What would you say are some of your biggest accomplishments in unicycling?

A: This summer in general was full of accomplishments for me. Winning both the 10k and Marathon at Unicon has to be one of the biggest moments in my life, but I also was fortunate enough to be able to complete both a 500 mile road Alps Unicycle Tour with Nathan Hoover and Corbin Dunn from California and a 200 mile self-supported Alpine off-road Unicycle Tour with Mark Lavis from Australia. Along with Mark and Tony Melton from New Zealand, we won the Grischa Muni Challenge in Switzerland, competing against 30 other unicyclists.



Top four finishers of the Marathon at UNICON 16 in Brixen, Italy. L-R: Martin Charrier (4th), Scott Wilton (1st), Christoph Hartmann (2nd), Corbin Dunn (3rd).

Q: Do you have a specific goal you're working on right now?

A: During my time at university, I have been working on freestyle with TCUC's Showgroup. I have also been hoping to attempt to beat the 100 mile world record, but I don't have a specific timeline for that yet.

Q: What is the funniest thing someone has said to you while you were unicycling?

A: I've gotten loads of funny comments while riding but can't recall any of the good one right now. One of my favorite things about traveling by unicycle is all of the comments (often not in English) that you get from locals. It's always a great way to start a conversation with someone you've never met before. Those are my favorite types of comments.

Minnesota MUNI Weekend

Kirsten Goldstein

If you have ever finished a unicycle weekend or convention and been around Connie Cotter, then you probably know that one of her favorite games to play is “high, low, crush, goal, bane.” This is less of a game and more like story time. A time to look back at what just went down and assess how you feel about different parts of the weekend or convention.

What was your high point? What was your low point? Did you have a crush on anyone (real or platonic)? Did you have a goal coming in? Do you have a goal leaving? And what was the most irritating part?

This year’s Minnesota MUni Weekend (Sept 21-23) was spent at the Cuyuna Mountain Bike Trails near the towns of Crosby and Ironton in Central Minnesota. The hills that these trails rest upon were created by iron mining. Where the soil has been moved, rain has filled in to create deep lakes. Each day we rode a different section of trail. Everyone that came and stayed at least one night slept at Tim’s brother’s cabin less than 20 minutes from the trails. Day one was a full group ride riding around one of the lakes. Day two was spend on the largest section of trail. We broke off into groups of about the same speed, meeting up for Lunch and Dinner. Dinner was spent at Ya’Betcha Bar and Grill where there was a large “Welcome Mountain Unicyclists” sign waiting for us. Day three was spent on the obstacles of another section. Few injuries were had and soreness was minimal.

Then this year after Minnesota MUni Weekend, I asked 5 adults and 5 “kids” to give me their take on some of the weekend happenings. I got responses back from 4 each. Here are some of their stories.

High points:

Pete Zeller: “Getting to the top of the hill for Saturday’s ride was literally a high point.”

Garrett: “Seeing all the people who have a common interest in mountain unicycling span a large age range and profession range.”

Robin Dunlop: “The obstacle riding on Sunday because I was able to do more than I expected”

Natalie Lanzatela: “The Olympic judge down of Scott Wilton fixing his flat tire. It was hilarious and he had such good form! “

Both Kenni Vance and Patricia Wilton commented on how great it was to see people.

*Greta Koehler: “The nice trails of Cuyuna were a great difficulty for me, and the landscape was beautiful. Tim’s brother’s cabin was a nice warm and comfortable place. I enjoyed staying there a lot. Playing all those mind games was fun for me, I especially enjoyed ‘Psychiatrist’, ‘I’m going on a picnic’, and the ‘sticks game’. (Whatever it’s called!!)”

Chris Hugo: “One: playing ‘Psychiatrist’; two: fitting 15+ people in Alex’s minivan.”

Low points:

Pete, Natalie, Kenni and Greta all thought that the rain and the cold of Friday night was a low point. They were tenting and the rain made that kind of miserable. But they also commented on how it all worked out that they were warm.



Garrett: “Only staying one night. I liked the riding, but I missed all the night time activities, fireside chats and games.”

Robin: “Only riding with a few people. I only got to see people during the breaks and at the end of the day.”

Patricia: “The long drive” (from Iowa).

Chris: “Waking up at 4 in the morning with Bruce Lee snuggling with my leg since his air mattress deflated.”

Crushes:

Pete: "I have a crush on the crushed rock trails."

*Garrett: "Scott Wilton with his game attitude when taking abuse from Kirsten and myself in regard to his form and style when repairing his punctured tire. How can you not admire a man willing to do mechanic poster poses in his form fitting riding outfit!"

Robin: "Greta, she had boundless energy and she kept up with me as much as I kept up with her."

Natalie: "Hmmm...platonically, it'd have been Kirsten. (AW! Me!) It was great to see her, and I really enjoyed talking with her when we were riding together Saturday afternoon!"

Kenni: "Neela, she gave me tips to help with uphill riding."

Chris: "Bruce Lee." Nuff said.

Patricia: "I'd have to say Greta. I didn't know she could ride MUni so well!"

Greta: "My crush is on Kirsten. (Aw! Me again!) She was the one who organized the weekend, and I thought the weekend was fun and inspiring for me, because I like MUniing now."

Banes:

Both Garrett and Chris had no irritant! The best thing to hear after an event.

Pete: "Having to leave Saturday afternoon to teach the Roseville [TCUC] class."

*Robin: "Not being allowed to do anything at dinner." As a background to this story, Robin is always trying to help. And while we love him for the fantastic job he does at this (if you've ever seen him at a NAUCC or UNICON, you know what I'm talking about) a few of us were trying to get him to sit down and enjoy dinner without trying to make sure everyone was being taken care of. He gave us the evil eye for a bit.

Natalie: "Riding behind people who were slower than me was really, really hard when I was riding up hills on the Friday night ride - it caused me to fall off a lot more because I couldn't keep the momentum going."

Kenni: "Joe's snoring." (Her tent-mate.)

Patricia: "The weather on Friday." It was cloudy gray and a cold rain.

Greta: "Oatmeal for breakfast."

Goals:

Pete: "Survived the ride with nothing broken. Goal achieved!"

Garrett: "My goal is always to ride well on the sharp rocks of Cuyuna."

Robin: "Coming in, I really wanted to survive Saturday AND Sunday rides. Last year I was so wiped Saturday that I didn't ride on Sunday. This year I did the ride Sunday and came out still able to walk (yay!)."

Natalie: "Get a spot to sleep in the Cabin next year."

Kenni: "Ride as much as possible, because I don't normally get the chance to MUni."

Chris: "Embarrass Dani as much as possible. Mission accomplished."

Patricia: "I had the goal of riding my MUni for the first time since UNICON and I did that."

And everyone should admire Greta for her goal: "To have a warm sunny weekend next year. "

Overall, Minnesota MUni Weekend was a fun weekend for everyone to hang out, catch up with people, and ride Cuyuna's trails, some of Minnesota's best. Maybe next year you'll have a high, low, crush, goal and bane from your experience at Minnesota MUni Weekend.



Asheville MUNI Weekend

Will Streets

On a cool fall Friday morning I hopped into a car with some other unicyclists and we were off; heading to Asheville, North Carolina for the annual Asheville Muni Fest (Sept 28-30, hosted by Jack Ingelman) . This was its sixth year running, or I should say “riding”, and there were lots of other unicyclists coming from all over the US and as far away as Texas! Excitement built as we started winding up the mountain roads and it all exploded when we pulled in at the house of a local rider for a cookout! It was a successful cookout with meat on the grill, drinks in the cooler and people on unicycles hanging out and just having a great time. His house was across from a school, where we found some pallets and quickly constructed a trials course.



Saturday morning all the riders met at a parking lot by the trail head of the first ride and we filled up tires and water bottles and took a group photo. After a brief of the trails ahead we were off on our first ride of the festival! The first trail was called Deerfield trail and started out with a winding climb and then a fun descent with lots of dirt ramps to catch some air! And of course, it passed by a few deer fields. The sky was cloudy, and the air was cool so it was perfect for a long MUNI ride. About a third into the ride, we came across a creek which several riders, including myself, went splashing through, before I noticed a ladder bridge over to the side. I quickly grabbed my camera and stabilizer and started filming as one after another, the mountain unicyclists came rolling along and over the ladder bridge. However, it was wet and slick causing many riders to either “chicken out” or just go flying off and plummeting into the creek! After playing around here for a while we continued our ride through the green North Carolina forest. At this point it had started drizzling and by the end of the ride it was definitely raining, but it was a good rain; it kept me nice and cool on the six mile trek. Finally, after nearly three hours of riding, and changing to the Explorer trail and then the Lower Side Hill, we arrived back at the parking lot and adjourned for lunch.

When we all met again for our afternoon epic, we were all amped up to go, despite the downpour that delayed our departure. When the rain ceased, we hopped on our munis and did a classic hill climb to the trail head of our downhill run. This three mile trial was called Wolf Branch Loop and had a long ripping downhill, which was much appreciated after the climb to the top! It was real technical with lots of rocks and grit and required all of my attention to stay up! Continuing down this mountain trial, it turned into smooth flowing single track, with lots of burms on every corner, so I could just let go of that hand brake and let my



legs fly! But suddenly at the end of this section, it threw me into a rather bumpy section with lots of roots and stumps! But instead of being thrown from my one wheel, I just power-housed through there using all the speed acquired from the previous section to my advantage. Ten minutes later, this fun section ended at a fork in the trail. After we all regrouped here we took a short water break and then finished the trail which consisted of a few open hills and a small cut through the woods back to the parking lot. This was definitely my favorite trail and highlight of the trip for me.

[video](#)

Butler Wobble Update

Dave Krack

It's been mighty busy around here since NAUCC 2012. We've been working on NAUCC 2013 (more on that in a bit) as well as getting in some group rides and racing in mountain bike races (on unicycles of course). Now that it's November, we're back inside at the Butler YMCA for a weekly practice and learning to ride classes. Oh yeah, this Saturday is our first Light Up Night Parade too!



As of late, most of our group rides and racing have focused on MUNI. We had the opportunity in September to ride the Expert MUNI course for NAUCC 2013, at Moraine State Park, under race conditions as part of the Month of Mud Series. Connor, Isaac, Nate, Seth, and myself found it to be challenging, but rideable. Prior to that we rode the Advanced Course (Steve joined in on that), also at Moraine. After that we rode the Beginner MUni courses (with Lisa too) at the Seneca Valley School complex, one of the primary sites of NAUCC 2013. Somewhere in there we had a showing of 6 (Adam, Isaac, Lisa, Katie, Nate, and myself) for a Month of Mud cyclocross race in North Park. If you haven't heard of cyclocross, you should definitely check it out- next Summer maybe?

As far as NAUCC 2013 goes- we're on it. We do keep the Facebook page (2013 Unicycle Nationals) and Butler Wobble website up to date with what's been confirmed. The event website is coming soon. There has been a lot of activity behind the scenes, and we're trying to make sure information is definite before publishing it. Sometimes it's hard to keep our mouths shut. We've got a lot of excitement at the local level for the event from volunteers to sponsors.

Plan on visiting us next July!

-Dave Krack

RTUC Camping Trip!

Adele Lowry



My favorite thing about RTUC (Redford Township Unicycle Club) is how open and friendly they are, when I first joined the club almost four years ago that's the first thing I noticed. I felt welcomed and comfortable with everyone and made friends right away. We are like one big family!

One thing that we do every year that is especially fun is our teen camping trips every summer! Usually we just go camping at a local camp ground but this year we went past Ludington just a little bit to orchard campground. 4 1/2 hours away from our homes! We rode around on our muni's and we went to the beach! We also went to the sleeping bear dunes and took tons of pictures.

Over all I had the best time, and being so far away from home made it even more of an adventure! We ate tons of good food, (salmon, kabobs, burgers, hobo pies, smores and more!) played truth or dare, and watched the sunset! It was the perfect way to end my summer vacation!

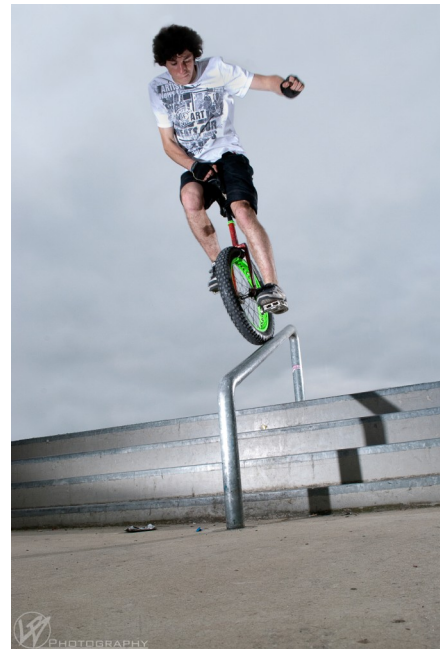


Here is a few videos sent in by different riders!

[Dance yourself clean](#), sent in by Casey Pappalardo!

[Bleeding Out Isaiah and Lars](#), sent in by Lars Anderson

These are a few photos sent in my Mike Parsons, better known as “Purple Mike” of the Redford Township Unicycle Club. The photos show him on his unicycle at two bridges in West Virginia and him on his unicycle at his last day at the Westland fire department.



The above photo of Tim Desmet was taken in Hasselt (Belgium) and sent in by Lara Beins!



Wondering how everyone did in Saline and Brixen this past summer?

NAUCC results can be found [here!](#)

UNICON results can be found [here!](#)

Both of these photos are of Terry Peterson on his 36er! Check out his mounting tutorial at the link below!



Have you been having trouble free mounting your 36 inch unicycle? Unicycle.com sent in this fantastic [tutorial](#) of Terry Peterson giving some tips for mounting your Coker on the first try every time! Check it out!

